

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

Cablofil Inc

Illinois Manufacturing Extension Center - Downstate

Legrand/Cablofil Meets ISO 14001 Requirements with Assistance from IMEC

Client Profile:

Legrand/Cablofil is a producer of cable trays for the commercial electrical industry. The company employs 70 people at its facility in Mascoutah, Illinois.

Situation:

Legrand/Cablofil has always considered itself a 'Green' manufacturer. The cable trays the company produces for the electrical industry are made from 90 percent recycled steel. Plus, the company recycles all of its own scrap steel, cardboard, and plastics. "Besides being the right thing to do, it's a source of revenue for us," said Gene Folz, Director of Plant Operations. "We can re-sell the material and avoid hauling costs to the landfill." When Cablofil's corporate management issued a challenge to all worldwide facilities to become compliant to the ISO 14001 Environmental Management Standard, Folz figured his group had a head start. "We started the process on our own, but quickly realized we needed to bring in someone familiar with Illinois' regulatory requirements," Folz said. Legrand/Cablofil turned to the Illinois Manufacturing Extension Center (IMEC), a NIST MEP network affiliate, for assistance.

Solution:

IMEC brought in resources from Fehr-Graham, a Freeport, Illinois-based provider of environmental management consulting and training services. The Fehr-Graham and IMEC team conducted an environmental compliance audit or gap analysis for the facility to identify all of the legal and other requirements that the facility would be subjected to. Data gathered was used as the foundation to strengthen the facility's Environmental Management System, as required under ISO 14001. Once the legal and other requirements were identified, Fehr and IMEC assisted the facility in preparing for their ISO 14001 surveillance audit, delivering general ISO awareness training for the employees, management training, miscellaneous environmental awareness reviews, clean-up, creation of written procedures and documentation. As a result of IMEC's assistance, the audit revealed Legrand/Cablofil was in compliance with the ISO 14001 requirements.

Results:

* Retained sales of \$36 million.

Testimonial:

"IMEC and Fehr-Graham essentially accelerated the entire process for us. We always call on IMEC when we need a resource to solve a problem."

Gene Folz, Director of Plant Operations

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